

**Forest Land-Washim**

Diversion of 0.2136 ha. Forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Nagpur for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road in RoW of Chikhalgad to Sawali road in Washim District in the State of Maharashtra.

**Government of Maharashtra  
Revenue and Forest Department  
Government Order No.: FLD-30A23/CR.209/F-10**  
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032  
Date:- 20.07.2023

**Reference:-**

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, MS, Nagpur Letter No. Desk-17/ Yavatmal/FCA-S1 /PID-423657/854, dt. 20.06.2023.

**Preamble:-**

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, MS, Nagpur has submitted a proposal for diversion of 0.2136 ha. Forest land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road in RoW of Chikhalgad to Sawali road in Washim District in the State of Maharashtra.

**Order:-**

In exercise of powers under general approval given by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide Handbook of FCA Guidelines-2019, Chapter 4 (para-4.2), Government of Maharashtra is pleased to grant '**In-Principle**' approval to the diversion of 0.2136 ha. Forest Land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road in RoW of Chikhalgad to Sawali road in Washim District in the State of Maharashtra.

The details of Forest Land proposed for diversion are as under:-

Sr. No.	Item	Name of the Village	Compt. No.	Survey No./Gut No.	Length x Width (in Mtr)	Area (in Ha)	Remarks
1	Proposal is for diversion of 0.2136 ha. forest land for laying Optical Fiber Cable of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd. along the Row of Chikhalgad to Sawali road in	Khambala	C 214	86	171 X 0.5	0.0086	RF
2		Shendurjana Adhav	C 142 A	78	900 X 0.5	0.0450	RF
3		Rui	C 143	40	1450 X 0.5	0.0725	RF
4		Rui	C 146	67 (Part-1)	320 X 0.5	0.0160	RF
5		Rui	C 146	67 (Part-2)	430 X 0.5	0.0215	RF

6	Washim District in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/OFC/423)	Poharadevi	C 160	22, 23, 24, 12, 30	1000 X 0.5	0.0500	RF
<b>Total Forest Area (in ha.)</b>						<b>0.2136</b>	

**2. This 'In-principle' approval is issued subject to the following conditions:-**

- 1) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- 2) There are 567 trees in the proposed alignment and user agency has assured that Optical Fiber Cable will be laid using horizontal direction drilling/open trench with use of manual labour to avoid harm to the trees and their roots. Wherever trees are present in the alignment, work shall be done under supervision of Forest Guard. No felling of trees shall be done during the implementation of project.
- 3) The concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests shall ensure legal status of proposed Forest land, before granting working permission.
- 4) User Agency shall defray the cost of plantation (including ten years maintenance) of 100 trees shall be levied from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Washim District shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. Details of land proposed for Plantation (Record of Rights & KML File), shall be submitted before Stage-II/Final approval.
- 5) The Optical Fiber Cable Line will be laid within maximum size of the trench of 2.00 meters depth & 0.5 meter width with cable line under the PVC Pipeline.
- 6) If bank guarantee is not submitted with concern Road Authority (NHAI/ MSRDC/PWD/ZP), the agency shall submit a bank guarantee at the rate of Rs.50/- per running meter and an undertaking to that effect shall also be submitted. If the agency fails to reclaim the land to the satisfaction of concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests, the cost for reclamation will be covered from the bank guarantee.
- 7) If the cable is going to be laid in the formation width of the road, then additional charges in form of bank guarantee shall be given at the rate of Rs.35/- per running meter. Similarly for reclamation of side drain and for tarred portion, the guarantee will be at the rate of Rs.300/- per meter and Rs.750/- per meter respectively. An undertaking shall be obtained from the User Agency that it has agreed to make good any loss to Forest/ Environment while laying the cable in the forest area and during maintenance of the same in future.
- 8) For further maintenance of the project, the agency shall obtain permission from the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests as and when required.
- 9) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
- 10) No felling of trees shall be done during the implementation of project.

- 11) No new forest area beyond the Right of Way of existing road should be broken for laying Optical Fiber Cable.
- 12) The User Agency shall pay the cost of additional Net Present Value, if required in future.
- 13) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 14) Underground Optical Fiber Cable can be laid only outside the confines of the Protected Areas.
- 15) After completion of the project, User Agency will reclaim the area under RoW suitably.
- 16) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the State Government.
- 17) This sanction is subject to the final clearance by the Department of Information & Technology for the project and concerned PWD authorities for the project.
- 18) The User Agency shall compensate the private owners of forest land if any, in accordance with the prevalent laws, rules & guidelines.
- 19) The User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- 20) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and Guidelines shall be complied by the User Agency.
- 21) All the conditions stipulated by the Forest Department shall be binding on User Agency.
- 22) The User Agency shall make good of any loss to Forest / Environment.
- 23) All necessary approvals required for the project as per the prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by User Agency.
- 24) Any breach of the conditions by the User Agency will be treated as violation of the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. This Government Order is available at the Government of Maharashtra's website [www.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.maharashtra.gov.in) with reference No. 202307201709004219. This Order has been signed digitally.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

(Ganesh Jadhao)  
**Under Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra**

**Copy to:-**

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi

2. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur.
3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, M.S., Nagpur
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO (Maha-CAMPA), M.S., Nagpur
6. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), M.S., Nagpur
7. Collector, Washim.
8. Chief Executive Officer, Zilha Parishad, Washim.
9. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Yavatmal.
10. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Washim.
11. M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Nagpur.
12. Select File (F-10)